Reviewer’s report

Title: Differential prevalence and associations of Overweight and Obesity by gender and population group among School Learners in South Africa

Version: 0 Date: 24 Feb 2017

Reviewer: Saad Siddiqui

Reviewer’s report:

This is a well-written, clear and thorough manuscript, and I would like to commend the authors for their work.

With the tide of epidemiological transition and economic development, childhood obesity is an important subject for research and evidence-based intervention, especially in resource-poor settings.

The authors have described their methods with an appropriate degree of detail.

The results report on the significant gender and physical activity differences, and highlight the adjusted association with and prevalence of co-morbidities.

The findings of this study contribute to the literature on obesity and its sociodemographic determinants, and by highlighting the urgency of the situation, it would be useful in the development of health promotion policies and campaigns at the school level in South Africa.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?  
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?  
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?  
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?  
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

Yes
I am able to assess the statistics

**Quality of written English**
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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